

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An ink container comprising:

a casing having a substantially rectangular shape;

a plurality of ink accommodating portions defined by partition in said casing;

ink supply ports provided, in a bottom side of said casing, for said ink accommodating portions, respectively;

a first engaging portion engageable with a first engaging hole of a holder;

and

a second engaging portion, provided on a latch lever engageable with a second engaging hole of the holder;

wherein said ink container is detachably mountable to ~~a holder~~ said holder provided with a recording head portion for ejecting ink accommodated in said ink accommodating portion,

wherein said first engaging portion, said ink supply ports and said second engaging portion are disposed substantially along a line a respective positions deviated toward one of lone edges of the bottom side, and

wherein ~~said plurality of ink supply ports are disposed deviated toward one of long edge of the bottom side; and~~ a plurality of dimple portions are formed around said ink in which said supply ports, respectively, and each of circumferences of are formed, respectively; and said dimples are cut away and open opens adjacent to said one of the long edges.

2. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 1, further comprising mounting engageable members at respective positions such as to interpose said plurality of supply ports therebetween, wherein as seen from a top of said ink container, a phantom straight line connecting centers of said mounting engageable members crosses with all of said plurality of supply ports.

3. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 2, wherein one of said mounting engageable members includes an engaging claw provided on a side surface of said casing, and the other is an engaging claw provided on a lever extending from said casing, and wherein such one of ink supply ports as is closest to said engaging claw provided on said side surface of said casing is deviated toward said partition.

4. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein each of said ink accommodating portion includes an air vent for fluid communication between inside of said ink accommodating portions and an ambience, a first liquid retaining member in the form of a sheet which extends on an inner bottom surface of said casing substantially along an inner configuration of the bottom surface and which is capable of being abutted by an external member through said ink suppl port; a second liquid retaining member closely contacted to said first liquid retaining member to supply the ink therefrom to said first liquid retaining member, wherein said first liquid retaining member has a liquid retaining force which is larger than that of said second liquid retaining member.

5. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 4, wherein with said ink container mounted to a holder, said first and second liquid retaining members are maintained deformed by an ink receiving tube provided in the holder.

6. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 4, wherein said first liquid retaining member is a lamination member of fibers, and a laminating direction of the lamination member is substantially the same as an abutting direction of the external member.

7. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 6, wherein a main axial direction of most of the fibers constituting said laminated fiber, is substantially along a longitudinal direction of the surface of said casing having said liquid supply port.

8. (Original) An ink jet recording head comprising a holder for detachably holding an ink container as defined in Claim 1 and a recording head portion for receiving the ink from said ink container held in said holder and for ejecting ink droplets.

9. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording apparatus, comprising a carriage for detachably carrying said ink jet recording head as defined in ~~Claim 9~~ Claim 8, wherein the ink droplets are ejected from said ink jet recording head onto a recording material to effect recording on the recording material.

Please add Claim 10, as follows:

10. (New) An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein said ink accommodating portions contain yellow ink, magenta ink and cyan ink, respectively.